



Department of State

DECLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM

ACTION: POL-2

CONFIDENTIAL

TEHRAN 5526
RECD 7 AUG 73

INFO: DCM ECON AID/D DAO
PAO CHRON

Classification

R 061005Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3353
RUGULX/AMEMBASSY KABUL 2304
BT
CONFIDENTIAL TEHRAN 5526

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOB, AF, IR

SUBJECT: FINAL IRANIAN APPROVAL OF HELMAND WATERS TREATY WITH
AFGHANISTAN

REF: TEHRAN 4139

1. FORMER IRANIAN AMBASSADOR TO KABUL AND CHIEF IRANIAN NEGOTIATOR ON HELMAND WATERS TREATY, MAHMOUD FOROUGHI, HAS TOLD THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRS THAT SHAH SIGNSL TREATY INTO LAW ON AUGUST 1. EARLIER APPROVAL BY THE MAJLES AND SENATE RECEIVED KPOBENT MEDIA COVERAGE IN TEHRAN BUT SHAH'S FINAL APPROVAL HAS NOT SO FAR BEEN PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED.

2. COMMENT: SHAH'S FINAL APPROVAL OF LEGISLATION OF IMPORTANCE OF HELMAND TREATY WITHAFGHANISTAN WOULD NORMALLY HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY ANNOUNCED. FACT THAT ANNOUNCEMENT NOT MADE IN THIS CASE PROBABLY RELATES TO RECENT COUP D'ETAT IN KABUL AND COMING TO POWER OF PRESIDENT DAUD. IF LATTER OPPOSES TREATY AS SOME ACCOUNTS SUGGEST, IRAN WOULD NOT WISH TO BE OUT IN FRONT WHILE AFGHANISTAN IS HOLDING BACK. WILL BE RECALLED THAT BY AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES, IRANIAN APPROVAL WAS TO AVAIT FINAL APPROVAL BY AFGHANISTAN. END COMMENT.

3. EMBASSY KABUL MAY WISH TO COMMENT ON PROSPECTS OF HELMAND TREATY RATIFICATION IN POS-COUP D'ETAT SITUATION.

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